



AP Photo

Secretary of State Colin Powell addresses the media alongside Iraqi President Ghazi al-Yawer at the Iraqi government headquarters in Baghdad, Friday.

Secretary of State Visits Baghdad

BAGHDAD (AP) — Secretary of State Colin Powell promised Iraqi leaders Friday that the United States will speed up spending to rebuild the country's infrastructure and create jobs, and said doing so will help make Iraq safer.

"It's important to note the leaders of Iraq are very courageous, they put themselves at risk every day," Powell said after meeting with interim Iraqi President Ghazi al-Yawer. "We have to make sure that these insurgents understand that we will not be deterred. The terrorists will be defeated, there can be no other option."

Al-Yawer said that

rebel forces have been increasing violent attacks recently because they realize they have no chance of winning.

"The bad guys, the army of the darkness, are getting more helpless and hopeless. That's why they are stepping up these things. Time and the place is on our side," al-Yawer said.

Powell made an unannounced visit here Friday and held discussions with U.S. ambassador John Negroponte and Iraqi officials.

"We want to speed up the flow of funds into the

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New Civil Affairs & PSYOP Teams Making a Difference

By Pfc. Matthew McLaughlin
2nd BCT, 10th Mtn. PAO

CAMP VICTORY, Baghdad - The Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 41st Infantry Regiment, Fort Riley, Kan., are no strangers to Iraq. They are on their third deployment in less than three years, to this area of operations. This time they are part of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 10th Mountain Division. This is the eighth headquarters that 1-41 Infantry Soldiers have served under in the past three years.

From March to October 2002, 1-41 Infantry Soldiers deployed to Kuwait in support of

Operation Desert Spring, attached to 3rd Infantry Division. After a brief time off, they spent a month in the field, followed by a rotation at the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, Calif. In March 2003, 1-41 Infantry deployed to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. 1-41 Infantry has not been attached to their brigade or division for any of their deployments in the past two years, Staff Sgt. Robert Dannerberg said.

"Some Soldiers have been here for the last three Independence Days," Capt. Chris Nelson said.

Soldiers from 1-41 Infantry, initially attached

to 18th Military Police Brigade, were one of the first units to cross the border into Iraq for Operation Iraqi Freedom I, Dannerberg said. As the 18th MPs continued with their own mission, 1-41 Infantry shared their talents with numerous units, including the 101st and 82nd Airborne Divisions.

"We are authorized to wear seven combat patches from a six month time frame," he said. "We had big battles with many of those units. We fought in Samawah, Karbala, Najaf and played a key part in securing Baghdad International Airport."

Soldiers from 1-41

Infantry received numerous awards, including Silver Stars and awards for valor.

Being separated from their parent units creates confusion for other units who don't know much about 1-41 Infantry, Dannerberg said. Third Brigade, 1st Armored Division, their parent brigade, recently returned from Iraq.

Another cause for confusion is that 1-41 Infantry's division, the 1st Armored Division, is located in Germany. Second Lt. Jeff Rottenberg said many people confuse the Fort Riley battalion with their German parent.

Search Nets Six Anti-Iraqi Forces for 1-8 Cavalry

By Cpl. Bill Putnam
122nd MPAD

AL RASHID, Baghdad — Soldiers from the 1st Cavalry Division's 5th Brigade Combat Team and the Iraqi National Guard's 304th Battalion detained six suspected anti-Iraqi forces during a massive cordon-and-search July 15 in southern Baghdad.

The search was part of the division's mission to target outskirts areas of Baghdad where rockets are fired into the International Zone, said Maj. Cameron Leiker, the operations chief for 1st Battalion 8th Cavalry Regiment.

The operation was designed to find anti-Iraqi forces and weapons caches in one of the most active areas of the brigade's area of responsibility, Leiker said.

Units from the 1st Battalion, 21st Field Artillery Regiment, cordoned off roads leading to the area, while 1-8 Cav., and the ING's 304th Battalion searched the area.

The division's Rapid Reaction Force air-assaulted from UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters onto an island in the Tigris to look for weapons caches.

Military working dog teams searched for caches. If any were found, engineer assets were on hand to dig them up. Civil Affairs specialists, from Company A, 489th CA Battalion talked with the locals about projects the coalition will be doing for the area.

The ING Soldiers did most of the searching, Leiker said. "It was a very large organization going out into these areas," he added.

Delta Company's mortar platoon found two of them, who are brothers living next door to each other, at their homes along the river during the early morning operation.

Everything started off with a search and a knock, including the target homes, Leiker said.

"By doing it that way, we come across in a more positive, less threatening manner," he noted of the search's techniques.

There at the mortar platoon's target homes, Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Mallo, the platoon sergeant for Delta Company's mortar platoon, waited for the family to open the gate door. Once open, his Soldiers and attached ING troops flood-

ed in to look for their target. Eventually two men were questioned.

"Is this you?" asked Mallo asked a man wearing a white "man dress." He held up a photo of the man. Arrogance and nervousness flashed across his face.

"Yes," the man finally said. An Iraqi soldier led him out, handcuffed him and put on a truck.

"We didn't want to do that in front of his kids," the sergeant said. All the insurgents captured that day would later be questioned. The other two men

the platoon wanted weren't home, Mallo noted.

Mallo and his unit passed out fliers to the locals asking for help identifying insurgents and for the locations of other caches. After the target homes, Mallo and his platoon began the tough task of searching the farm fields and jungle-like palm groves for caches.

"See that burlap bag? If you see another, pull at it. Something could be hidden under there," Mallo said.

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By Cpl. Bill Putnam, 122nd MPAD

An infantryman in the Iraqi National Guard's 304th Battalion walks past a resident of a small farming village near the Tigris River during a search for weapons caches July 15. ING Soldiers worked with troopers from 1st Battalion, 8th Cavalry Regiment to find caches and flush out insurgents in the area.

Useful Iraqi Words/Phrases

What does this mean?

Ma MA'Na HAZa

Saturday

High: 114
Low: 86



Sunday

High: 112
Low: 84



Monday

High: 110
Low: 82



Weather information provided by 1CD Staff Weather Office (SWO)

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New Airport Runway Gets Christened by Emergency

From Killeen Daily Herald

WEST FORT HOOD, Texas — The 10,000-foot runway at Robert Gray Army Airfield proved its worth Thursday when a SkyWest plane with mechanical problems was diverted there from the Killeen Municipal Airport.

Killeen-bound SkyWest flight 9527 from Houston

was scheduled to land at 1:25 p.m. But the municipal airport's 5,500-foot runway proved too small for the plane with its flap trouble.

"The pilot was having problems with the flaps on the aircraft," Gee said. "The Killeen airport has a very short runway and with any sort of problem — it is not wise to land on a short

runway."

Gee said the plane tried to return to Houston, but inclement weather there led to the Fort Hood landing. The plane landed without incident.

Passenger Tucker Shosh of Killeen said he knew something was up when the plane looped once or twice around the area. Before the landing, Shosh said the passengers were told they would be landing at Robert Gray.

Killeen's 5,500-foot runway prompted local leaders to begin looking for alternate airport solutions nearly a decade ago. After years of planning, commercial traffic officially moves Monday to the Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport, which will share the Army's longer runway.

Five of the 26 passengers onboard the SkyWest EMB-120 turbo-prop plane, which landed at Robert Gray, lived on Fort Hood and did not require transportation to Killeen Municipal Airport.

"They just went home," Gee said.



Steve Traynor, Killeen Daily Herald

Officials and workers from the Robert Gray Army Airfield on Fort Hood help the passengers of a Continental Airlines flight move into vehicles that took them to the Killeen Municipal Airport on Thursday. The plane was forced to land on the airfield's longer runway due to mechanical problems with the flaps. The GrayArmy Airfield will open its joint venture with the new Killeen-Fort Hood Regional Airport on Monday.

Powell: Reconstruction, Security Vital to Iraq's Future

Continued from Page 1 reconstruction effort," Powell said. "We want to rebuild the infrastructure. We want to create jobs. We want to show the Iraqi people that this money is being used for their benefit and do it as quickly as we can."

U.S. lawmakers and others have long criticized the snail's pace at which occupation officials spent

more than \$18 billion Congress approved for reconstruction last year. To date only \$458 million has been spent, officials said, partly due to bureaucratic red tape in the U.S. government contracting process.

And the first government audit of reconstruction spending in Iraq showed that U.S. authorities spent hundreds of millions of Iraqi dollars with-

out keeping good enough records to show whether they got some services and products they paid for.

"Reconstruction and security are two sides of the same coin," Powell said. Improving the economy and restoring vital services such as water and electricity "contributes to a sense of safety and a secure environment," he said.

After his half-hour

FIRST TEAM

News Note

Homeland Security Chief May Call It Quits after Election

WASHINGTON (AP) — Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge is considering stepping down after the November election, telling colleagues he is worn out from the massive reorganization of government and needs to earn money in the private sector to put his teenage children through college, officials said.

During a meeting Friday in Miami, Ridge called the report "an inside the Beltway game" and said he wouldn't comment about it.

"The president gave me a great job," Ridge said. "I'm doing the job and after President Bush is re-elected, we'll have to have that conversation."

Several senior Homeland Security officials told the Associated Press that Ridge has indicated in recent weeks he probably will resign after the election, even if Bush wins.

meeting with al-Yawer, Powell said the two countries are facing big challenges which they are determined to overcome.

Al-Yawer expressed confidence the violence will not deter Iraq from electing a transitional government in January.

"We are working around the clock to make sure we are on time," he said.

Mega-deal for Dodgers?

By Ken Rosenthal
The Sporting News

The Dodgers have won 22 of their past 29 games, taking a 2 1/2-game lead in the NL West. Yet Paul DePodesta, their first-year GM, appears on the verge of giving the team a major facelift.

With less than 24 hours remaining until the non-waiver trade deadline, DePodesta continues to work on three-way deals that could land the Dodgers either Diamondbacks lefthander

Randy Johnson or center fielder Steve Finley — both of whom could quash any deal by invoking their no-trade protection.

The Dodgers, multiple sources confirm, have discussed sending catcher Paul Lo Duca, reliever Guillermo Mota and outfielder Juan Encarnacion to the Marlins and outfielder Jayson Werth and prospects to the Diamondbacks.

Their initial return could include Finley and Marlins righthander Brad Penny. Another option

would be to include Penny in a package for Johnson.

Johnson reportedly has rejected any trade to the Dodgers, preferring to be sent to the Yankees. Finley is adamant about remaining in center field — a potential sticking point, because the Dodgers would want to keep Milton Bradley in center and move Finley to a corner-outfield position.

If one of the trades gets done, other questions would arise.

The Dodgers would lose their heart and soul if they traded Lo Duca, a clubhouse leader who is batting .301 this season with 10 homers and 49 RBIs.

They also would lose perhaps the game's most valuable setup man if they traded Mota, who represents insurance for closer Eric Gagne and is under the team's control through 2006.

Then again, Finley and Penny would represent major additions, Johnson the biggest addition of all.

The Dodgers would need two find a catcher, and their talking to the Rockies about Charles Johnson.



AP Photo

TRADE BAIT? Dodger catcher Paul Lo Duca could be part of a three-team trade sending Randy Johnson to Los Angeles. Lo Duca is hitting over .300 and is a clubhouse leader in LA.

Cavalry Patrols Tough Neighborhood

Continued from Page 2

He was advising the ING troops on how to look for hidden weapons caches. Sunlight barely peaked through the dense vegetation.

The Soldiers wearily spread back out in a line to continue searching through a palm grove. Crashes and the rustles of the dense vegetations echoed through the grove.

By the time they were done, uniforms were covered in tiny thistles and smeared green from falling.

It was exhausting, the heat started to affect everyone. Eventually two ING soldiers with Mallo's platoon fell out from heat exhaustion. One had to be evacuated.

Given the area's past, cracking the insurgency there has been hard, Leiker

noted. Years ago, the now-deposed leader gave five-acre parcels of land there to friends, family, a few military generals and Ba'ath Party leaders. As a result, many of the area residents are fervently pro-Saddam, Leiker said.

"Being able to break in (to the area) is a bit difficult, because there's a lot of loyalty there," Leiker said.

Sports Shorts

Kobe Bryant's Judge Says 'Sorry' for Leaked Info

EAGLE, Colo. (AP) - With the parents of the alleged victim in the courtroom, the judge in the Kobe Bryant sexual assault case apologized Friday for court mistakes that led to the release of sealed information.

During the brief public hearing, district judge Terry Ruckriegle, told the parents he would treat the mistakes as a learning experience.

"For all of those who come through these doors, victims and defendants alike, whose names are never known and never sought, I can only assure you I have learned lessons from these mistakes, and that we will give our best human effort not to let it happen again," he said.

Colorado Football Coach to Appear Before Grand Jury

DENVER (AP) — Colorado football coach Gary Barnett was called Friday to appear before a grand jury investigating his program's recruiting practices.

Barnett did not immediately go before the panel, and would not comment to reporters.

He was suspended in February for comments he made about two women who accused football players of rape, then he was reinstated in May after an investigative panel concluded he shouldn't be fired.

The grand jury investigation is the first indication criminal charges could be filed in a scandal that led to sweeping changes in Barnett's program.